

an>

Title: Need to accord permission for a separate federation for Railway Engineers.

SHRI NAGENDRA KUMAR PRADHAN (SAMBALPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your kind attention to the fact that the All India Railway Engineers Federation (AIREF) representing around 80,000 Junior Engineers and Senior Section of Indian Railways has been working for safe movement of millions passengers daily. The AIREF, keeping in view nature of duties, responsibilities, mode of recruitment, training, promotion, service status, etc. of its engineers has been demanding since long for recognition in order to represent their problems appropriately. In this regard, the Railway Safety Review Committees (Khanna, Wanchoo Committees, etc.) have recommended separate platform. As the Engineers are coming under the supervisory category, they should not be clubbed with the labour unions of Railways similar to Defence Ministry, etc. Hence, I would like to urge upon the Government to look into the matter and accord the status of separate federation for railway engineers like RPF, Group `C' and Group `D' Associations of Railway Board to represent their grievance in view of betterment of Railways safety and economy.